THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 17th February 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Action against Government servants

* 762 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many cases were started by the State Government against the Government employees in the years 1951 and 1952 for alleged subversive activities; and

(*b*) how many cases were dropped, how many disposed of and how many are still pending?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) 19 cases.

" (*b*) 14 cases have been dropped, 3 cases have been disposed of and 2 cases are still pending."

Saw Mills and Ply Wood Factories in Baliapatam

* 763 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of accidents that took place in the Saw Mills and Ply Wood Factories in Baliapatam, North Malabar, from 1952–54; and

(*b*) in how many cases compensation was given to workers?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The number of accidents that took place is as follows :—

Year.	Accidents.
1952	18
1953	17
1954 (from 1st January 1954 to 30th September 1954).	8

" (*b*) The number of cases in which the compensation was paid is as follows :—

Year.	Accidents.
1952	17
1953	15
1954	5 "

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, has an enquiry been instituted into these accidents and have suggestions been made to these factories to avoid them? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, is it a fact that even first-aid arrangements are not provided in most of the factories in Baliapatam which is an industrial town? May I request the Hon. Minister to enquire into the matter and see that proper first-aid arrangements are made in the factories according to the Factories Act? May I also request the Hon. Minister to give necessary instructions to the management to see that some protective arrangements are made to see that such accidents do not occur in future? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I shall enquire whether proper first-aid arrangements have been made."

Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Besides first-aid arrangements, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to see that permanent safety measures are taken to protect the workers from accidents? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I have no doubt the Factories Department have been looking into these matters."

" Byssinosis "

* 764 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether any disease known as Bissions is prevalent among industrial workers particularly those in textile mills?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The disease referred to is presumably ' Byssinosis '

The enquiry shows that the disease is not prevalent in Indian textile mills to any appreciable extent."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" Sir, may I know whether any investigation was made to find out the prevalence of this disease in the State? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" An enquiry into the prevalence of this disease was conducted under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research in Madurai in 1949 and 1950. As already stated, enquiry showed that the disease is not prevalent to any appreciable degree in the Indian textile mills."

Sri M. JAGANNATHAN :—" Sir, the name ' Byssinosis ' is rather ununderstandable. May I know what is the name of the disease in ordinary common parlance, Sir? "